



#### CITY OF FLAGSTAFF

# HOUSING SECTION NEWSLETTER





#### A Tragic Loss for Flagstaff



On Friday, May 28, 2021, Flagstaff tragically lost 29-year-old Joanna "Jo" Wheaton, a valued member of the City of Flagstaff's Housing Commission. The City of Flagstaff is grateful for Jo's contribution to the Commission. She chose to use her time and energy to pursue her passion for helping others by working to achieve the City's mission to protect and enhance the quality of life for all.

## Incentive Policy for Affordable Housing (IPAH) Update

Stakeholder interviews about the use of affordable housing incentives were held March-May. All comments and ideas gathered from the interviews are being organized as project managers prepare for discussions with city staff. New ideas related to the regulatory and financial incentives, city processes, and other city codes will be reviewed with city staff for feasibility. These internal conversations will begin in the month of June and will help shape the initial drafts of new incentives and proposed strategies.

For more information please contact Project Managers: Jennifer Mikelson, Housing Analyst (928) 213-2744 and Dan Symer, Zoning Code Manager (928) 213-2644.



# Creating Flagstaff's 10 Year Housing Plan

Affordable, accessible, and decent housing is of critical importance to a community's health and viability. On December 1, 2020, City Council declared a Housing Emergency in Flagstaff, prioritizing affordable housing within City operations to create safe, decent, and affordable housing opportunities for all community members.

The Housing Plan will define the housing emergency in Flagstaff and will provide policies and strategies to reduce it. As the City implements the Flagstaff 10 Year Housing Plan, the goal is to substantially increase the number of available and affordable housing options for all Flagstaff residents at all income levels.

On June 8, 2021, the Housing Section provided an update to City Council regarding the work that has gone into creating the 10 Year Housing Plan thus far, draft overarching goals were shared and informal working groups were recognized for their dedication and involvement. A recording of the meeting is available here: <a href="https://flagstaffaz.new.swagit.com/videos/1225">https://flagstaffaz.new.swagit.com/videos/1225</a>



# Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) 2021/2022 Allocation Updates



On Thursday, May 13th HUD notified the City of Flagstaff of an increase to the 2021 CDBG allocation of 1.5%, an additional \$8,419, bringing the total CDBG allocation to \$579,786.

During the June 4th meeting, City Council approved a resolution allowing for the submission of the 2021/2022 Annual Action Plan. The City of Flagstaff 2021 Annual Action Plan includes funding for two Housing activities including \$349,979.34 for Catholic Charities facility acquisition for the Closing the Gap program and \$307,875.33 for Housing Solutions of Northern Arizona's newly developed Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Program. Three public service projects were funded, including \$30,000 for Homeless Youth Connection's Empowering Youth for the Future program, \$25,000 for Boys and Girls Club of Flagstaff, and \$54,337.50 for small business assistance provided by Native American's for Community Action.

The City is excited to partner with these excellent agencies to provide crucial social service and housing projects for our community.

### Sharon Manor Expansion and Renovation Project

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funded Sharon Manor expansion and renovation projects have reached full completion. Housing Solutions of Northern Arizona (HSNA) received a Certificate of Occupancy in early May and Housing staff and City Council members attended a ribbon-cutting ceremony on May 19th. The Sharon Manor House now has **13 fully functional**, independent apartments ready to be leased by survivors of domestic violence – a significant increase from eight rooms with shared restrooms in mid-2020.

# Sharon Manor Expansion and Renovation Project Photos



Site preparation to add five apartments upstairs.

Second floor construction

City staff's tour of the construction project





Ribbon cutting ceremony with City of Flagstaff staff and Council

Project completion -13 fully functional, private apartments

#### COVID-19 Vaccine Pop-up Clinics

Everyone 12 years of age and older is now eligible for COVID-19 vaccinations. Coconino County Health & Human Services (CCHHS) will be operating the following pop-up clinics for the first vaccine:

- <u>Friday</u>, <u>June 11th</u> from 11 am to 1 pm at the Coconino County Courthouse Lawn,
   200 N San Francisco St
- Wednesdays from 10 am to 1 pm at CCHHS, 2625 N King St

All vaccines are free of charge and **do not require an appointment**. Second doses will be scheduled 28 days from the first dose.

For more vaccination information, contact the COVID-19 Info Line at (928) 679-7300 or go to <a href="https://www.coconino.az.gov/2580/COVID-19-Vaccination-Locations">https://www.coconino.az.gov/2580/COVID-19-Vaccination-Locations</a>.



Everyone deserves safe, decent, and affordable housing.